

**From:** Thomas J Petracca  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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"...exclusionary agreements..."

This is the fundamental argument that the Justice Department claims as the basis for its case against Microsoft. It is pure hypocrisy that a "monopoly" can exist with only, "exclusionary agreements." The D of J is absolutely correct, Microsoft and computer companies "agreed" that in order for those same computer companies to sell Microsoft software they would have to agree to limit their service to other computer companies. They, the computer companies, "agreed." Let's see, every retail industry I know of, food, housewares, home improvement, etc., practices the same exact policy. Why is it, that my corner grocer only carries a couple of specific brands of cereals.? When I ask, they state they only "want" to sell the big names because if they bring in competition they could be "dropped" by the big guys, as a distributor. Welcome to America.

If you want to have a better operating system, write one, and get the \$\$\$ behind it to get some computer companies to buy it. With PC's being commodity items these days there is no longer any barrier. Any Tom, Dick or Harry can start a PC company and sell PC's...and get into an agreement with another operating system software company. Sure, the odds are against it. Microsoft has done such a good job convincing the public that their software, which is really not that good, is the best. They won at the American game...and now America - more accurately the D of J wants to punish it.

The cry babies at Netscape and the other hacks are smart. Why bother trying to be innovative, not just in developing a better mousetrap (operating system), but in packaging and marketing it to the public. It's not necessary. The guilt ridden people in our D or J will lead the way in bringing the rebel Microsoft (the most successful company of all time) and it's lunatic chairman (the greatest philanthropist of all time...measured by \$\$\$ given away) to their knees.

Social control of our software industry will clearly bring about better systems for the little people. Hey, Mussolini made the trains run on time.

Thank you.

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